PATENT

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Takashi YOSHIMURA et al.

Serial No.: New Application (PCT/JP01/00800)

Filed: September 27, 2001

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR CLEANING

PERIPHERAL PART OF SUBSTRATE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of each of the references listed on Form PTO-1449 are attached.

Also enclosed is a copy of a International Search Report bearing a mailing date of March 6, 2001, and the U.S. PTO is directed thereto for a concise statement of possible relevance of the references cited therein.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office may, in the first instance, determine any

materiality thereof to the claimed invention. See 37 C.F.R. 1.104(a) and 1.106(b) concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that these references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

Respectfully submitted,

PARKHURST & WENDEL, L.L.P.

September 27, 2001

Date

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